

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 - 10 and claims 11 -43 (cancelled)

44.(new) A countermeasure system for launching a decoy carrying cartridge comprising:
a base for supporting the system;
a launch tube having a central axis, the tube being disposed substantially vertically on the base, the tube having a longitudinal guide therein for effecting non-rotational, axial movement relative thereto;
means for rotating the launch tube about its axis while disposed on the base;
a decoy cartridge receivable within the tube, having propulsion means for launching the cartridge longitudinally out of the tube along its axis;
the decoy cartridge having guide means cooperable with the tube longitudinal guide, the respective guide means of the tube and the cartridge being disposed for interaction throughout a substantial portion of the launch;
the decoy cartridge having canard means disposed thereon for adjustment of the pitch of the cartridge during flight after launch from the tube.

45.(new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 44 wherein the means for rotating includes means for setting the azimuth angle for the trajectory of the decoy cartridge.

46. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 44 wherein the launch tube is housed in an outer tube affixed to the base

47. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 45 wherein the tube longitudinal guide and the cartridge guide means provide for rotation-free launch of the cartridge with respect to the launch tube.

48. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 47 wherein the rotation of the launch tube sets the launch azimuth orientation and course of the decoy cartridge and the actuation of the canard means statically adjusts pitch angle and ballistic trajectory of the decoy cartridge.

49. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim includes a thruster disposed substantially perpendicular to the axis of the decoy cartridge for selective adjustment of the course of the cartridge after launch from the launch tube.

50. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 46 wherein the cartridge includes internal control means preprogrammed for activation of the thruster

51. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 44 wherein the cartridge includes internal control means preprogrammed for activation of the canard.

52. (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 44 wherein the cartridge includes an onboard gyroscopic stabilization system to control at least one of roll, pitch and yaw of the cartridge after launch.

53 (new) The countermeasures system as claimed in claim 52 wherein the gyroscopic stabilization system is linked to a data base prior to launch of the cartridge whereby updated flight and decoy information is provided to the system.